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APPARATUS FOR IMPLANTING DEVICES
IN ATRIAL APPENDAGES

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 The invention provides a delivery system for
placing devices in atrial appendages. The system
includes a catheterization apparatus having a tubular
structure with one or more nested tubes, wires, and
shafts. The tubes establish a passageway for moving a
device through a body's vasculature and heart into an
10 atrial appendage. An expandable positioning guide is
disposed on the distal end of a tube passing through
the apparatus. The positioning guide is expanded in
situ to engage atrial wall surfaces proximate to the
atrial appendage for mechanical support. The deployed
15 positioning guide mechanically stabilizes the device
delivery passageway. A shaft passing through the tubes
transports the device through the passageway to the
atrial appendage.

The system includes catheterization apparatus
20 for transseptal delivery of the devices. An outer tube
or sheath in the apparatus is used to penetrate and
traverse the septum. An expandable securement device
is disposed toward an end of the sheath. The
securement device is expanded in situ to engage surface
25 portions of the traversed septum to restrain further
inadvertent movement of the septum-traversing sheath.

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